

SHOALHAVEN HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

PROJECT UPDATE: OCTOBER 2024



The NSW Government is investing \$438 million to redevelop the Shoalhaven Hospital, delivering contemporary and expanded hospital services and integrated health facilities for the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District.

The Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment will be the health hub for the region, providing most emergency, critical care, acute, sub-acute, and non-admitted services locally, reducing the need to transfer patients to Wollongong and Sydney.

Read about the latest news and developments in this project update.

What's the latest on the Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment?

Work on the Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment is progressing well with the new seven-storey acute services building on track to be completed in 2026.

The new building is close to reaching its highest point with work progressing on some sections of the seventh floor. The new Ambulance Bay and Loading Dock areas are starting to take shape, while construction of the main lift core is progressing steadily. Installation of high-level services such as electrical, plumbing, and air conditioning systems has commenced for some of the lower-level spaces.

Once the building is complete it will include a new emergency department, intensive care unit, double the number of operating theatres and endoscopy rooms, a dedicated cardiology inpatient unit, and a new rooftop helipad.

For more information about the redevelopment visit the project website:

shoalhavenredevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au



Meet Shoalhaven Hospital Group General Manager Frank Bazik

Last month we took Shoalhaven Hospital Group General Manager Frank Bazik on a walk through the redevelopment site. We asked him to tell us a bit more about his role at Shoalhaven Hospital and share his thoughts on the redevelopment.

Could you tell me a bit about you and what you do at Shoalhaven Hospital?

The role of General Manager provides overall leadership and responsibility for delivery of the health services to the community.

This includes managing a significant expense budget and supporting more than 1,600 staff.

What do you love most about your job?

Every day is never the same, just when you think you have seen it all another challenge arises.

You recently had a walk through the redevelopment site. What was your impression?

The spatial impact of the project is staggering in size and dimension.

Did anything surprise you?

The rapid progress in the construction from just a footprint earlier in the year to recently reaching the 7th floor, now looking forward to seeing the helipad constructed.

What aspects of the redevelopment are you most looking forward to?

The overall planning and thought that has gone into ambience of the area with landscaping, artwork, new retail hub and modern wayfinding will provide staff, patients, and visitors with great amenities and will become the heart of the hospital.

How will the redevelopment help to improve the work environment for your team?

While the Executive Team will not be in the new building, (we are moving to where Pathology is now), we will be extremely proud to showcase to the community, patient, visitors and prospective staff such modern ward environments, expanded ED/ICU/Operating Theatre Suites and new Palliative Care, Cardiology and Mental Health services.

In what ways will it improve the experience for our patients?

Patients will have greater local access to a larger range of clinical services without the need to travel outside the local community.

New technologies will also assist clinicians to provide more rapid diagnosis and treatment of patients - a second CT scanner and new MRI is just one example in the field of Medical Imaging.

In three words, could you describe the redevelopment and what it will deliver for the people of the Shoalhaven?

Gamechanger! (said it in one word!)

Meet Grace Twitt, HR People Partner - Projects and Recruitment

The Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment marks a significant upgrade and expansion of healthcare services for the local community. We spoke with Project and Recruitment Officer Grace Twitt to learn about the new roles and job opportunities, and how the team is planning recruiting and training activities in preparation for the hospital's opening.

Tell us about your role and why it's important?

My role focuses on anything related to the workforce and staff within the hospital redevelopment.

I collaborate with a range of different people and departments within the hospital to understand their training, recruitment and change requirements.

This role is important as it allows us to plan for what the new hospital requirements will be well in advance, meaning that staff at the new hospital will be set up for success right from day 1.

What types of employment opportunities will there be in the redevelopment?

When most people think of a hospital, their mind goes straight to doctors or nurses. What surprises a lot of people is that there are many other opportunities, both clinical and non-clinical available.



We are looking to fill roles across all experience levels, including cleaners, security, nurses, allied health professionals, administration staff, educators and more!

As a brand-new facility, there is the unique opportunity to join as a foundational staff member, allowing you to grow your career, acquire new skills and advance professionally as the hospital continues to develop.

What are some of the activities you are doing to attract new staff to the hospital?

We are connecting with local employment agencies, community organisations and educational institutions to highlight the variety of roles and opportunities that will be available as part of the redevelopment.

We are using social media, advertising, cross-agency recruitment and attending job fairs to let people know about job opportunities, as well as promoting the new facility and Shoalhaven area to people considering relocation, whether from overseas, interstate or intrastate.

There are a range of incentives that NSW Health has available that may assist with those looking to work in certain roles in a regional area, such as **NSW** Health's Rural Health Workforce Incentive Scheme.

What would you say to anyone thinking about coming to work at Shoalhaven Hospital?

If you are considering a career change or a sea change, now is the perfect time to take that chance.

Moving to the Shoalhaven and starting work at the Shoalhaven Hospital allows you to be a part of an exciting new chapter in the community whilst working in a stunning part of the world.

For locals, this brand-new facility represents a significant upgrade in the quality of care available within the community. As there are new services that will be opening within the newly developed hospital, this is the perfect chance to take the next step in your career and make an impact right from the first day the hospital opens.

What is the best thing about living and working in the Shoalhaven?

Definitely the work/life balance.

Having recently relocated from Sydney I have experienced firsthand how refreshing it is to have everything you need close by with minimal traffic. You are surrounded by coastal beauty, with some of the world's best beaches just moments away!

Project timeline



Did you know?

As part of the planning for the Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment a Green Travel Plan is being developed to better support the transport needs of staff, patients, and visitors.

The aim of the travel plan is to

- help reduce the environmental footprint of the hospital
- increase awareness of travel options
- reduce parking demand at the hospital
- reduce the volume of vehicles moving around the hospital to improve safety for staff, patients and visitors
- improve health and wellbeing by supporting people to walk or cycle

A range of initiatives are being developed such as providing bicycle storage and end-of-trip facilities including showers, encouraging carpooling, change



rooms and lockers and improving awareness of public transport options.

Do you have a suggestion to support our green travel plan? Email the project team HI-shoalhavenredevelopment@health.nsw.gov.au



On Tuesday 1 October, Minister for Health Ryan Park and Member for South Coast Liza Butler toured the Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment site to see the construction progress up close.



Scan the QR code to read the Minister's media release or visit: health.nsw.gov.au/news/
Pages/20241001_02.aspx

For more information

visit: shoalhavenredevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au email our team: HI-shoalhavenredevelopment@health.nsw.gov.au